

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 DODE-00  
ERDA-05 FEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 COME-00  
TRSE-00 /101 W

-----242218Z 120615 /70

P R 232145Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9296  
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 10513

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: TECH ENRG PARM BR  
SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS OF DUTCH VETO IN URENCO OF POSSIBLE  
ENRICHED URANIUM FOR BRAZIL

REF: BONN 21430

1. SUMMARY. GOB OFFICIALS PROFESS TO BE UNWORRIED ABOUT A POSSIBLE  
DUTCH VETO OF URENCO URANIUM FOR BRAZIL. ACCORDING TO NEWS  
REPORTS, "SPECIALISTS" CITED EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES AND FRG PLEDGES  
FOR FUEL FOR ANGRA I AND III. FONMIN. SILVEIRA HAS REFUSED TO  
COMMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. ON DEC 22, BRAZILIAN PRESS, CITING BONN'S GENERALANZEIGER,  
REPORTED THAT THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT WOULD VETO URENCO FUEL FOR ANGRA  
II AND III UNLESS BRAZIL ADHERED TO THE NPT OR ACCEPTED IAEA  
SAFEGUARDS ON ALL FORM NUCLEAR FACILITIES IN BRAZIL.  
THE STORY SAID THE GON, HMG, AND THE FRG WERE DISCUSSING THE  
ISSUE.

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3. ACCORDING TO A DEC 23 PRESS REPORT, FONMIN. SILVEIRA AND A  
DUTCH EMBASSY SPOKESMANN REFUSED TO COMMENT. NEITHER HAD RECEIVED  
CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS DAY'S PRESS REPORTS. AN  
UNIDENTIFIED (AND, WE HAVE LEARNED, UNAUTHORIZED) DUTCH  
EMBASSY SOURCE IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE GOB WANTS FURTHER

ASSURANCES, BUT THERE ARE OTHER POSSIBLE CONTROLS BESIDES BRAZIL'S ADHERENCE TO THE NPT.

4. SEVERAL UNIDENTIFIED BRAZILIAN "SPECIALIST", ACCORDING TO DEC 23 PRESS REPORTS, PROFESSED TO BE UNWORRIED ABOUT A POSSIBLE DUTCH VETO--THEY CITED "EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVES", AND PLEDGES IN THE FRG/GOB NUCLEAR AGREEMENT FOR FUEL FOR ANGRA II AND III. ONE UNNAMED ABSERVER REPORTEDLY SAID THE GOB, FACED WITH INTERNAL OPPOSITION TO URENCO EXPANSION, IS TRYING WITH THE VETO PSYCHOLOGICALLY NOT TO SEEM TO BE IGNORING THE APPEALS OF ITS PEOPLE. ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED OBSERVER SAID IT WAS CLEAR THAT URENCO WOULD DEMAND MORE SAFEGUARDS, AND HE POINTED TO INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES ON NETHERLANDS BY OPPONENTS OF THE FRG/GOB AGREEMENT (READ US). UNIDENTIFIED OBSERVERS REAFFIRMED THAT THERE WAS NOT THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF BRAZILIAN ADHERENCE TO NPT.

5. A DUTCH EMBASSY OFFICIAL TOLD US HIS EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION FROM THE HAGUE OF THE BONN PRESS REPORTS. HE MADE CLEAR THAT THE REPORTED COMMENTS OF A LOWER LEVEL EMBASSY OFFICIAL (PARA 3) HAD BEEN MADE WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF A CONFIRMATION OF THE FACTS. THE OFFICIAL WITH WHOM WE SPOKE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN URENCO WOULD MAKE A DECISION ON EXPANSION AND ON FUEL FOR THIRD COUNTRIES INCLUDING BRAZIL, ALTHOUGH HE HAD CONCLUDED FROM DUTCH PRESS SOURCES THAT GOB INTERNAL DECISION HAD BEEN MADE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED INTERNAL, PARTICULARLY LEFT-WING OPPOSITION TO URENCO'S EXPANSION.

6. NUCLEBRAS PRESIDENT PAULO NOGUEIRA BATISTA, ACCORDING TO CONFIDENTIAL

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A DEC 23 PRESS REPORT, ISSUED A NOTE DENYING KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CHANGE IN BRAZIL'S "CONTRACT" WITH URENCO, AND EXPRESSING HIS EXPECTATION THAT NO CHANGE WILL OCCUR.

7. PROFESSOR JOSE GOLDENBERG, A DIRECTOR OF THE PHYSICS INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO AND A LONG TIME CRITIC OF THE FRG-GOB AGREEMENT, COMMENTED, ACCORDING TO THE DEC 23 PRESS, THAT THE DUTCH DECISION DID NOT SURPRISE HIM, INVIEW OF THE STRONG PRESSURE FROM THE NUCLEAR POWERS. HE COMMENTED THAT "THE CIRCLE IS CLOSING" AROUND BRAZIL.

COMMENT: GOLDENBERG'S "CIRCLE" REFERS TO THE USSR AS WELL AS OTHER SUPPLIERS, IN VIEW OF SOVIET CRITICISM OF BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM AND NON-NPT STATUS.

8. REF JUST RECEIVED.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** URANIUM, PRESS COMMENTS, NUCLEAR FUELS, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BRASIL10513  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION OES  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BONN 21430  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 MAR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 MAR 2004 by hartledg>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS REPORTS OF DUTCH VETO IN URENCO OF POSSIBLE ENRICHED URANIUM FOR BRAZIL  
**TAGS:** TECH, ENRG, PARM, BR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006